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**PATENT**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Duane L. McDonald                      Docket No.: 17858.3  
Serial No.: 10/749,988                      Group No.: unknown  
Confirmation No.: unknown                      Examiner: unknown  
Filed: December 31, 2003  
For: PACKAGE WITH EASY OPEN FEATURE

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. BOX 1450  
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8(a)**

I hereby certify that the attached correspondence comprising:

Information Disclosure Statement Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)  
Before First Office Action or Within Three Months of Filing Date  
5 Page(s) of PTO Form 1449  
26 Document(s)

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**United States Patent and Trademark Office**

Applicant:	Duane L. McDonald	Docket No.:	17858.3
Serial No.:	10/749,988	Group No.:	3721
Confirmation No.:	9975	Examiner:	unknown
Filed:	December 31, 2003	Date:	May 13, 2004
For:	PACKAGE WITH EASY OPEN FEATURE		

**Information Disclosure Statement Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)  
Before First Office Action or Within Three Months of Filing Date**

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
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ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.56 and in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97 et seq., Applicant, through and by his or her attorneys, hereby wishes to direct the Examiner's attention to the documents listed on the attached modified PTO 1449 Form. A copy of each non-U.S. patent document and a copy of each non-patent document listed on the form is also presented herewith for the Examiner's review and convenience. Cited U.S. patents and U.S. patent application publications are not included in accordance with the U.S. Patent Office waiver of the requirement under 37 C.F.R. 1.98 (a)(2)(i) for submitting a copy of each cited U.S. patent and each U.S. patent application publication for all U.S. national patent applications filed after June 30, 2003, and for all international applications that have entered the national stage under 35 USC 371 after June 30, 2003.

Applicant also wishes to bring the following commonly-assigned pending patent application to the attention of the Examiner:

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/366872 filed February 14, 2003, by Kellenberger et al. for "COMPACT ABSORBENT ARTICLE."

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/750479 filed December 31, 2003, by Nelson et al. for "PACKAGE ENCLOSING A SINGLE DISPOSABLE ABSORBENT ARTICLE."

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/750505 filed December 31, 2003, by Nelson et al. for "METHODS OF FOLDING DISPOSABLE ABSORBENT ARTICLES."

These applications are not listed on the accompanying PTO Form 1449; however, copies of these applications are provided herewith.

By inclusion of any given document in this Information Disclosure Statement, Applicant in no way admits that such document is effective as prior art against the above-identified application under either 35 U.S.C. 102 or 35 U.S.C. 103.

Additionally, submission of any document is not to be taken as an admission of the materiality of the document to the prosecution of the present application.

The Examiner is requested to review each cited document and personally determine its prior art status.

Applicant recommends that the Examiner conduct an independent search for any and all available material prior art and independently review the results of such search and the documents cited within this Statement.

Applicant requests the Examiner, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97, to indicate and make of record receipt and review of all of these documents by initialing the appropriate box in the accompanying PTO-1449. Applicant requests that the undersigned receive a copy of the initialed PTO-1449.

If the Examiner refuses to consider any or all of the herein submitted materials because it is the Examiner's opinion that this Information Disclosure Statement is not in compliance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner notify the undersigned, in writing, as to the basis of such opinion.

Please charge any prosecutorial fees which are due to Kimberly-Clark Worldwide, Inc. deposit account number 11-0875.

The undersigned may be reached at: 920-721-4558.

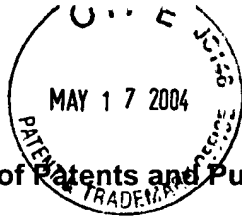
Respectfully submitted,

DUANE L. MCDONALD

By: \_\_\_\_\_

David J. Klann

Registration No.: 46,833

**List of Patents and Publications for Information Disclosure Statement**

Applicant(s): Duane L. McDonald  
Serial No.: 10/749,988  
Filed: Unknown

Docket No.: 17858.3  
Group: Unknown  
Examiner: Unknown

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Initial		Doc. No.	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing
	A1	1994135	03/1935	Horowitz			
	A2	2145137	01/1939	Sayers			
	A3	2935828	05/1960	Mahaffy et al.			
	A4	3343336	09/1967	Bradford			
	A5	3442686	05/1969	Jones			
	A6	3605746	09/1971	Schaar			
	A7	3645060	02/1972	Hammond			
	A8	3710797	01/1973	Marsan			
	A9	3794033	02/1974	Ryan			
	A10	3824759	07/1974	Finn et al.			
	A11	3938523	02/1976	Gilliland et al.			
	A12	3963029	06/1976	Brooks			
	A13	3970217	07/1976	Culbertson et al.			
	A14	4034760	07/1977	Amirsakis			
	A15	4050462	09/1977	Woon et al.			
	A16	4076663	02/1978	Masuda et al.			
	A17	4242854	01/1981	Nissen			
	A18	4265070	05/1981	Mainberger et al.			
	A19	4286082	08/1981	Tsubakimoto et al.			
	A20	4556146	12/1985	Swanson et al.			
	A21	4573608	03/1986	Hansen			
	A22	4598528	07/1986	Mcfarland et al.			
	A23	4630320	12/1986	Van Gompel			
	A24	4641381	02/1987	Heran et al.			
	A25	4646362	03/1987	Heran et al.			
	A26	4702378	10/1987	Finkel et al.			
	A27	4704116	11/1987	Enloe			
	A28	4765477	08/1988	Froidh et al.			

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include a copy of this form with your next communication.

Examiner:

Date Considered:

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Applicant(s): Duane L. McDonald

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Serial No.: 10/749,988

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Examiner: Unknown

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Initial		Doc. No.	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing
	A29	4798603	01/1989	Meyer et al.			
	A30	4802884	02/1989	Froidh et al.			
	A31	4833862	05/1989	Bortolani et al.			
	A32	4886512	12/1989	Damico et al.			
	A33	4934535	06/1990	Muckenfuhs et al.			
	A34	5016778	05/1991	Reiland et al.			
	A35	5065868	11/1991	Cornelissen et al.			
	A36	5141505	08/1992	Barrett			
	A37	5176668	01/1993	Bernardin			
	A38	5192606	03/1993	Proxmire et al.			
	A39	5255817	10/1993	Reiland et al.			
	A40	5295988	03/1994	Muckenfuhs et al.			
	A41	5304158	04/1994	Webb			
	A42	5383872	01/1995	Roessler et al.			
	A43	5413568	05/1995	Roach et al.			
	A44	5462166	10/1995	Minton et al.			
	A45	5509915	04/1996	Hanson et al.			
	A46	5520674	05/1996	Lavon et al.			
	A47	5564261	10/1996	Kiner			
	A48	5651778	07/1997	Melius et al.			
	A49	5666787	09/1997	Young et al.			
	A50	5766389	06/1998	Brandon et al.			
	A51	5897542	04/1999	Lash et al.			
	A52	5971153	10/1999	Bauer et al.			
	A53	6004307	12/1999	Colon et al.			
	A54	6028240	02/2000	Wessel et al.			
	A55	6040494	03/2000	Kalentun et al.			
	A56	6050984	04/2000	Fujioka et al.			

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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Initial		Doc. No.	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing
	A57	6079562	06/2000	Bauer et al.			
	A58	6260211	07/2001	Rajala et al.			
	A59	6264972	07/2001	Drury			
	A60	6297424	10/2001	Olson et al.			
	A61	6316687	11/2001	Davis et al.			
	A62	6321513	11/2001	Meixner			
	A63	6387085	05/2002	Van Gompel et al.			
	A64	6443938	09/2002	Vogt			
	A65	6458110	10/2002	Lavon et al.			
	A66	6475199	11/2002	Gann et al.			
	A67	6497692	12/2002	Tameishi et al.			
	A68	6500160	12/2002	Mizutani et al.			
	A69	6502695	01/2003	Kim et al.			
	A70	6575947	06/2003	Tameishi et al.			
	A71	6630237	10/2003	Rivett et al.			
	A72	2002/007866	06/2002	Salman et al.			
	A73	2002/017027	11/2002	Salman et al.			
	A74	2003/006530	04/2003	Suga			
	A75	2003/006530	04/2003	Kuroda et al.			
	A76	2003/007397	04/2003	Suga			
	A77						
	A78						
	A79						
	A80						
	A81						
	A82						
	A83						
	A84						

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Group: Unknown

Filed: Unknown

Examiner: Unknown

Foreign Patent Documents								
Initials		Doc. No.	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Trans.	
							Yes	No
	A1	CH 671145	08/1989	Switzerland (English Abstract)			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	A2	DE 29620118 U1	04/1998	Germany (English Abstract)			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	A3	EP 0 539 703 B1	03/1997	Europe			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	A4	EP 0 747 295 A1	12/1996	Europe			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	A5	EP 0 938 437 B1	01/2001	Europe			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	A6	JP 10-095481 A	04/1998	Japan (English Abstract)			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	A7	JP 10-305059 A	11/1998	Japan (English Abstract)			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	A8	JP 2000-043818 A	02/2000	Japan (English Abstract)			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	A9	JP 2001-114214 A	04/2001	Japan (English Abstract)			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	A10	JP 2002-337814 A	11/2002	Japan (English Abstract)			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	A11	WO 89/00037 A1	01/1989	World - PCT			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	A12	WO 95/32698 A1	12/1995	World - PCT			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	A13	WO 96/41753 A1	12/1996	World - PCT			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	A14	WO 97/33815 A1	09/1997	World - PCT			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	A15	WO 98/57675 A1	12/1998	World - PCT			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	A16	WO 99/03436 A1	01/1999	World - PCT			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	A17	WO 00/19953 A1	04/2000	World - PCT			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	A18	WO 00/19954 A1	04/2000	World - PCT			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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Examiner: Unknown

Other Documents		
Initials		Author, Title, Date, Pages, etc.
	A1	Derwent World Patent Database abstract of IL 67419: Description of Porat et al., "BANDAGE MADE OF ABSORBENT MATERIAL."
	A2	Derwent World Patent Database abstract of JP 3169863 BS: Description of Shiseido Co Ltd., "INDIVIDUAL PACKAGING METHOD OF SANITARY PRODUCT."
	A3	Derwent World Patent Database abstract of JP 3400659 B2: Description of Kawshiwagi et al., "BAGGED SANITARY TOWEL."
	A4	Derwent World Patent Database abstract of JP 3403120 B2: Description of KOA Corp, "PACKING UNIT FOR ABSORPTION GOODS."
	A5	TAPPI Official Test Method T 543 pm-84, "STIFFNESS OF PAPER," published by the TAPPI Press, Atlanta, Georgia, revised 1984, pp. 1-3.

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